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1.15 " " 1.45 " "	" " 10 "
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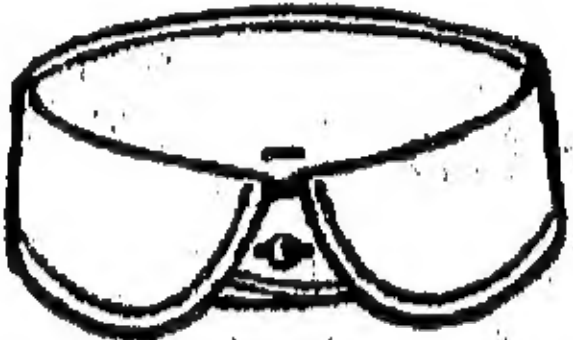
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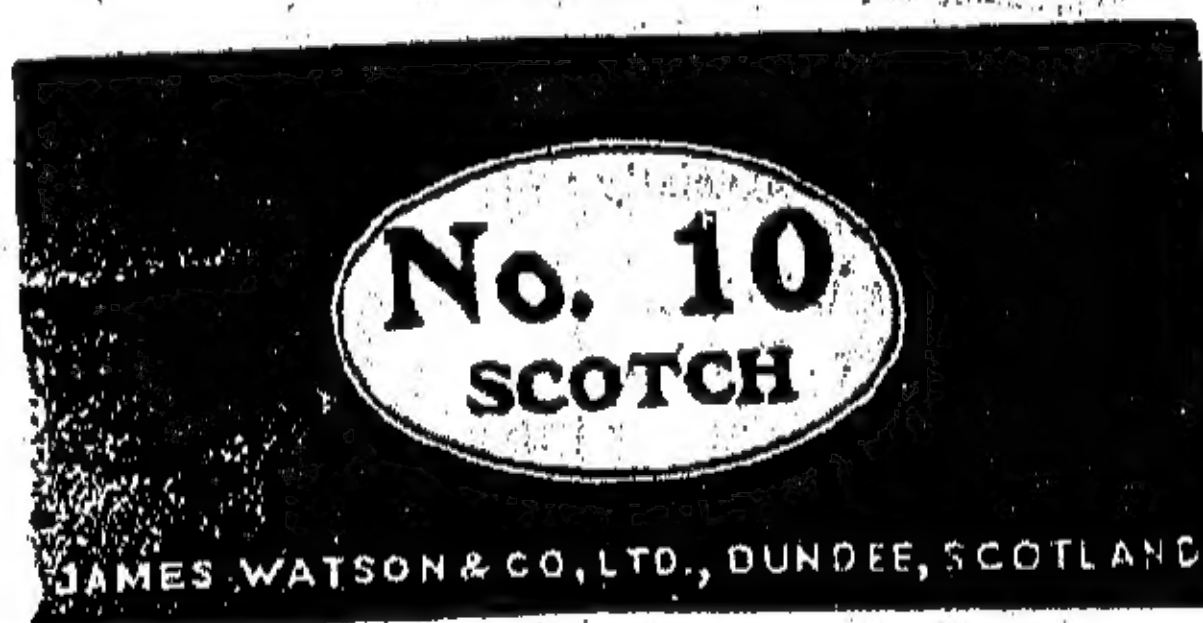
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KEEPERS OF A GATEWAY.
A NIGHT WITH THE GALLANT
SERBS.

[BY FRANK FOX.]

After four days of hard travelling in December, 1912, I had reached Mustapha Pacha from Kirk Kilise, and pushed on from the village to the railway station, two miles distant, hoping to catch a train to Sofia at 5 p.m. But the train was to leave at 5 the next morning and we turned back, my driver and I, to seek food in the town. The tide of war, stayed at the moment by an armistice between the Balkan States and the Turkish Empire, had swept the country clean of all food, and it had been with difficulty that I obtained bread and cheese and an occasional bit of goat's flesh on the road. Mustapha Pacha seemed to be worse than the country around. The one little café, a quaint den that might have been a poor-class drinking place in ancient Rome with its bench for cooling the wine-jars just as you see them in Pompeii, was closed to the public. It was now a Mess for officers of the Serbian Army which had come over to help the Bulgarians to capture Adrianople from the Turks.

The town offered no chance of food for my servant and myself, nor for the brave little ponies that had carried us over the rough tracks which represent roads in the Turkish Empire. But what I had seen up to then of the Serb showed him to be chivalrous and courteous. I decided to try my luck with the Mess. A Major of Artillery who spoke French (almost as badly as I did) was my only chance.

"You are English. Well, well. Indeed, grand. I wish much to know more the English. Sir, make this your home; and for your servant and your horse. Yes, everything is requisitioned in the town for the military. It is not possible to buy, but as our guest you will have everything."

Truly I had everything. The ponies were munching an night. My servant slept in the kitchen, and I, in a room with a noble meal with no start of a Turkish Greek wine out of an amphora and, greatest of all, there was offered me a sumptuous and an insight into the souls of a summing little race.

My friend the Major in civil life was an ardent orator. He was a cultivated man in a way exactly antithetical to German Kultur, for he was not over-loaded with facts which he had a really intelligent mind and had thought out for himself a philosophy of life (of the national duties in the particular) that was sound enough.

It was the unhappy position of his people as keepers of a Gateway that made the name of Major—a talk before dinner. When the Turk came to Europe, he pointed out, the way to the rich plains of Austria ran through the valley of the Vardar and the mountain passes around which the Serb race had settled. They were a simple people, the Serbs, he said, half with pride, half with regret, and could make no kind of terms—as did others—with the Turk. Their fate was to fight until they were exterminated except a remnant that kept the embers of the race alive in the wild hills. Never had the Serb nation bowed its knee to the Turk, and when the time came the mountain bands swept down and Serbia lived again.

"But now," the Serbian officer concluded, "Now we shall have all that again with the German instead of the Turk." I was astonished, for at this time (December, 1914) Serbia was on the crest of her victory over Turkey, and one did not expect to find in the Balkan an appreciation, so soundly prophetic, of the future European situation.

"It is true," he went on. "We held the passes when the Turk wished to over-run Europe; and we suffered. Now, Germany moves down to the Mediterranean, he must come down the valley of the Vardar, and again we hold the passes. It is our fate. And we do not know how to avoid it. We cannot live as slaves. We cannot keep friends with both camps as some do; we have not the art. The German hates us as the Turk hated us. We bring up our children to a doom."

Carrying the subject farther, he was less precise; and no purpose would be served by repeating all that he said. But its argument was this: that Serbia, facing the great danger of the German flood breaking against her, felt saddened by the thought that the rest of Europe did not sympathise with or understand her. France, he said warmly, had been a good friend. Russia he regarded as more than a friend—a big brother; but the extremely democratic policy of the Serbian people, he felt, was a cause of some estrangement with Russia. It was to Great Britain that his thoughts turned—and Serbia's thoughts generally, he assured me—with longing and yet with anxiety. Why did not Great Britain, why did not America, understand the Serb better? All over the Balkans British aid and American aid had various agencies to him to have a genuinely sympathetic unselfish interest in the small Balkan States. Of the educational work carried on by the United States with its headquarters at Constantinople he was particularly appreciative. From that Serbia had some benefit. But, on the whole, she was the neglected child of the Balkans.

"It is our fault, perhaps. We have not the art to be popular. We will not take German prizes, and we will not conceal our independence."

With a curious insight into the relation of sea-power with the European situation, he argued that if Serbia could not attract the sympathy and aid of Great Britain and America (always he spoke as if these two must necessarily act as one to defend a threatened race) she would suffer the same fate at the hands of the German as she had suffered

(Continued at foot of next column.)

"U"-BOAT THIEVES.
A SKIPPER'S STORY.

A capacity for being cheerful in all circumstances is one of the most precious gifts with which Nature can endow a man. Happy—and few are they who possess it.

Skipper Bendrope was one of these greatly blessed individuals. His ship had been submerged, the Huns had robbed him. Yet was he in no wise depressed or out of humour, but told his story with twinkling eye and ready smile. "Soon after daybreak," said he, "I was on the bridge; weather thick, dashed cold, looking forward to my hot tea, eggs, and bacon with the keen relish one always takes from the morning watch to the breakfast table. Away on the port hand I noticed what appeared to be a fishing boat under full sail. Didn't quite fancy the cut of her, so called up my mate. 'Pointing her out I asked him, 'What do you make out of that, Bill?' He coned her for a bit, then putting down his glass said, 'Moves funny for a fishing boat. It's tin-fish (torpedoes) she carries. I'll bet; them sails is only a blind.' 'Believe you're right, Bill,' I told him; 'we'll give her a wide berth, and I rang up for full speed ahead, and the submarine, for it was a submarine, altered its course and fired a shot across our bows. As we didn't stop for that she sent another over our decks."

"Next one'll go into our engine-room," remarked the mate, and knowing the ways of the pirates I guessed he had surmised about right. Still there's nothing like running while you've got legs, and I thought I'd chance it; we might get away. But the submarine didn't mean to let us. She overhauled us so easily that you might as well have tried to avoid Sunday as run from her. An officer on her deck megaphoned us, saying that he meant to sink us anyway. If we didn't stop and 'down ladders' pretty quickly he'd sink the ship and all hands with her."

"Seeing there was no help for it, I stopped engines and ordered all hands to catch up what they could, then came on deck and lower the boats. By the time we had done this the pirates were aboard us, of arguing lay on their side. So we just fished out what money and watches and things we had and the pirates grabbed the lot. They hunted up all the grub they could find in the ship as well, their officer telling us that they wanted it worse than we did, as we could go ashore and get more and they couldn't. The lubberly again, I hope they'll never get ashore again. After the pirates had collected their loot they pulled back to their craft and made us go with them. And we had to lay alongside them while they fired into our ship and sank her."

"During this proceeding a pirate stood on the submarine's deck taking photographs. One of our men asked him if he'd mind sending him a picture postcard, so as he could put it in the family album alongside the picture of the missus and the kids. 'Oh, yes, certainly I will,' he replied, and he took a picture, smiling, as if he was ever so pleased to be obliging. 'Don't mind it, bring it. We'd like to see you round Hull way,' says our chap."

"Well, after our poor old ship had gone the submarine dived herself, telling us to make for shore as quickly as we could, which was superfluous advice anyway, for what could a penniless, half-naked crew do going sea-faring in a couple of dinghies? He surely didn't think we'd ret out to trade with the Indies in them. An hour or so later a patrol vessel picked us up, and here we are, all ready to go to sea again as soon as we can sign on in another ship."

at the hands of the Turk. France would help if she could; of that he was sure. But France had troubles of her own. It was the English Fleet that could save Serbia. That was how he put it. But I could see that he thought of the English Fleet as a joint British-American affair, and had very optimistic ideas about the possibilities of the transport of armies by sea.

Major had some mistaken notions. His confusion about the American and British peoples was beyond cure by explanation. It was common enough in the Balkans, where the identity of language and the identity of aims there made "American" and "British" practically synonymous except in the best informed official circles. But on the whole he was sound enough, and during the course of this war I have often thought of his prophetic insight.

At dinner we talked of different things. Fourteen officers were present, all fine fellows. Those who spoke French translated to the others what I said, and we became a band of friends. At 11 o'clock it was decided that since I must catch a train at 5 a.m., two miles off, it was useless for me to try to go to bed; and in good fellowship they agreed among themselves to keep me company. Talk faded away at midnight, and the Serbian officers then sang (in liedertafel fashion) stern melancholy songs, in which I heard echoes of the old struggle against the Turks, forebodings of the future struggle against the Germans.

The majority of my new friends marched with me to the station, and having during the evening learned so much English, cried out: "Good-bye, good-bye!"

That was the beginning of my knowledge of the Serbs, and ever afterwards I found them as a race simple, brave, chivalrous. In this war as keepers of the Gateway they have suffered more harshly probably than in the days of the advancing Turk. But perhaps some of them get consolation from the fact that they are not only the English-speaking Powers but practically all the civilised Powers are their friends and will be their avengers.

THE HEART OF THE
WORKSHOP.

"LEST WE FORGET."

[BY AN A.S.E. MEMBER.]

When the delegates of the A.S.E. conferred with the Government upon the question of the Trade Card Scheme a few weeks ago they were addressed by Sir W. Robertson, who told them in confidence some particulars about the waste of life in the present campaign and that he required 600,000 fresh men by July. As far as I know this confidence has been honoured, but an inference has certainly been conveyed, that the casualties have been and continue to be very heavy. Moreover, the delegates have brought away some very vivid impressions of the general situation, and not the least significant is the conviction that the War Office and the recruiting authorities have in some sense demanded that a large contribution towards making up the required number shall be and ought to be contributed by the Ministry of Munitions. No well-informed person will deny that the War Office demand is reasonable; indeed, there is a strong presumption that the entire contribution might well come from the Munitions Service, and that without taking one single qualified artisan from his work or impairing in the least the adequacy and capacity of production. One is puzzled to decide, not so much how we have produced so much, but rather how we have carried the burden and yet survived.

The prevalent trend of thought, explained in previous articles, has induced the idea that this is essentially a workman's trouble, and he alone is its victim. But the fact is that the employers, particularly the smaller employers, are direct sufferers; while the actual reflex of this thoughtless abuse is inadequate and insanitary production, and hence a vitally urgent national question. Apart from the social and moral wrong of the business, the practical consideration is that the industry cannot carry this depressing burden and produce efficiently.

In spite of much meretricious window-dressing by Ministers who anxiously quote radiant statistics which the public cannot analyse and which they would find some difficulty in demonstrating as flawlessly accurate, it is production that is still the clamant demand of our day. The wisest thing Lord Derby ever said was his recent admonition to our countrymen to "Look at the map and ask yourselves if all is well!" The progressive undulations of the black line which approximately indicate the military frontiers of warring nations is educational enough and needs little emphasis or elaboration to thoughtful men. Machine-made steel is the backbone of modern warfare, the primary agents of its production are skilled engineers, not a horde of unskilled and unteachable officials. The Ministry of Munitions can give General Robertson his half million of recruits without taking a single qualified skilled or semi-skilled man or apprentice from the workshop, and he will do the industry and the nation good service by insisting upon getting them.

HOME TRUTHS. This article is written with an earnest desire to help in widening the workshop outlook, in giving fibre and substance to a dormant sense of national responsibility, in clearing the workshop mind of an exaggerated sectional self-consciousness. It is much more a confession of culpability than a proclamation. If masters and men in the engineering industry are asked to-day, "Are you all doing your duty, are you faithfully giving of your best to the cause which depends so much upon you?" what will the honest answer be if not an admission of fault?

A perusal of the synopsis of evidence to be officially submitted by the A.S.E. to one of the seven Commissions of Inquiry into Labour Unrest has prompted the reflection that selfish sectional concentration is the spirit in which it has been compiled, for the headings all indicate the prevalence of the idea that the incidence of war and the consequent concomitants of war time are carried and suffered exclusively by our own industry. There is no breath of willing sacrifice, no thought of courageous and unselfish self-reliance. It is natural to apprehend that the employers will tender small testimony from their own point of view. Wage-grabbing and profiteering are according to the standpoint from which they are approached—which is selfishly egotistical. The Cult of the Aggrieved is conspiring against our industrial liberties, with at least one eye upon after-war possibilities, may be well founded, but we can fight them for it after the war—and beat them too. To-day's need is competent and continued production, and failure is a guilt which we must share and answer for in common with employers and inept Ministries, before the high tribunal of Public Right. And, he it known—even to Dr. Addison—that our munition production is not what it should be, and that it is a temperate statement of the case.

"Look at the map!" Remembering what has been achieved and what remains to be achieved and we get at least a conception of cold-steel fact that cannot be gauded by all the drum-beating and trumpeting of Ministerial showmen.

AN INDICEMENT. During the past twelve months especially the decadence of the skilled worker has been marked and manifest. There is an absence of motive and a lack of enthusiasm; a disposition to get time in rather than to get work out. I do not think there will be many engineering workmen who will deny this. Whatever exonerations may be offered—and there will be many extensions to offer—they will not justify a full acquittal, and the fact remains that we are not giving our best. If we ask, "Who is it?" the answer is that millions of our fellows voluntarily gave home and career and all that life means to the young and ardent, and millions more are still giving as much, if under compulsion. Our hospitals and hundreds of public and private buildings are filled

(Continued at foot of next column.)

OUR DEADLY GUNS.

GERMAN'S TALE OF WOE.

"HELPLESS AGAINST BRITISH."

A letter found upon the Messines Ridge gives a good picture of what the enemy is now enduring, and what he thinks of the war. It is dated June 6th, and the address given is "A Shell-Hole in Hell":

You have no idea what it is like—fourteen days passed in hellish fire day and night—in this marvellously beautiful weather. We crouch together in holes and await our doom. The dead here are piled up by their artillery alone, which is far superior to ours. The night through we lie prepared for action, with gas-masks on our faces, as Tommy fires gas shells and three or four hundredweight of aerial torpedoes all night. No trench work, as it is not to be thought of with shrapnel all night. The wounded and poisoned are being continually collected in groups and sent off; many dead, too, from gas poisoning. Up to now our division—only three regiments—has lost 3,400 men in barely three months. The fourth regiment is in Macedonia. We are quite helpless against the English. Thirty men have been buried in mine galleries, and are burning into the bargain. Every day the English fetch over some of these in the front trench, or rather hole. What are the poor fellows to do? Everyone refuses to go to the front line. We wait all night in increased readiness for action. We can no longer sit or lie down. Our heads ache from gas. Our gasmasks, which would drive a lion mad, and its effect is indescribable. Our artillery cannot fire in the day-time. Tommy notices it at once, and it all dies away.

THEIR ARTILLERY IS ENOUGH. A terribly devastated region. Three days more and we shall go right up to the front line again for five days. We all look forward with joy to being made prisoners. We do not touch the hand-grenades. It would be useless. Nowhere can a man be worse off, not even among hostiles. Such a pitiful life—no food, no drinking water all day, and the sun burns. At midnight dinner, and at three in the morning coffee, but not always, as in every act there is danger to one's life. If we are not soon relieved, we shall go mad! We are already all muddled. There are artillery, infantry, and flying men from Arras here. They say Arras was the golden age compared with this time in hell. At least, they had galleries there; we have absolutely nothing here. The English want to shoot us down, not to make peace. They do not need infantry; their artillery is enough. We dare not let a glimpse of us be seen during the day-time. Fifteen to twenty-five flying men are over our position, and as soon as they catch sight of any one they signal with their machine-guns, and for half an hour the heaviest shells are whistling over the position. Here and there half a dug-out is to be found.

There is no doubt that many such letters as these are written in the German lines these days, but there is every doubt as to whether the censors let any of them pass.—Reuter's Special Service.

with sick and maimed and mutilated on a hood. These men have given their best, and there are more of them than there are aggrieved fathers and mothers.

But what of the distant moral sense of a nation that can regard the tragedy of war as a commonplace and care pay such scrupulous heed to "the various interests" involved? Here is a case, unfortunately typical of tens of thousands. One of the first of our soldiers to be gassed and who miraculously survived now lies dying of consumption and has lain for nearly two years. Discharged from the Army, he has, as a manifestation of his country's love and gratitude, the magnificent pension of 10s. a week, and he is the sole support of a widowed mother. It is not enough to live upon and not enough even to die comfortably upon. One wonders if the thousands of men who have suffered and sacrificed as much as he have any "grievances" serious enough to engage the wise attention of a few Commissions.

IN EXTENUATION. If the wrangling of our rulers and employers made us right, we are manifoldly acquit; for the mechanic is virtuous personified by comparison with the patriotic commercialist. The best our rulers can do is to infest an industry with myriads of parasitic officials and wash out the best productive skill with indiscriminate "dilution." If example be better than precept, there are examples enough at least to qualify the indictment against the engineer. Here is one, an extract from the *Financial*, contained in a leading commentary upon the last annual meeting of the Cunard Steamship Company.

"It reads almost like a fairy tale, but fantastic freight rates are the order of the day, and the torpedoing of the company's leviathans, regrettable as it may be, is humanitarian grounds, is financially a blessing in disguise. They were insured and unprofitably employed on Government work."

If this immoral declaration may go unwhipped, even unchallenged, can we harshly criticize Sir Walter Runciman for saying "Of course we are making money—we have a right to make money?" or denounce Lord Leverhulme for stigmatising the raising of the Excess Profits Tax as "an absolute outrage"? Or for that matter, should we be hard upon the engineering operative for attaching more importance to his petty trade regulations than to his country's peril?

This at least we have a right to claim: that if our rulers sincerely desire to bring about the restoration of the enthusiasm and energy from which we have obviously and admittedly collapsed, they must provide that the results of our labour shall not be devoured by freight sharks, food exploiters, and the chartered banditti of the Armament and Chemical Rings, of frittered away upon an army of shabby young shirkers who have been allowed to make lucrative and commodious fiddling of our trades, but shall be honestly devoted to the cause we have at heart in the honour of the land we live in.—*Various Morning Post.*

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.
THEFT.

Six weeks' hard labour was the sentence passed upon a Chinese who was found guilty of stealing a quantity of brass from the Green Island Cement Works.

OLD IRON.

A Chinese who was found at Yau-mat in possession of 100 lbs. of old iron was unable to give a satisfactory explanation as to where he got the iron from, and Mr. Wood fined him \$10, with the alternative of 14 days' hard labour.

BRIBERY.

When a Chinese from Canton was approached by an Indian Constable for causing an obstruction, the Chinese promptly offered the constable \$1 to say nothing about the matter.

Mr. Wood fined the defendant \$1 for causing an obstruction and \$50 for offering a bribe.

OPIMUM.

A Shanghai Chinese was fined \$200, with the alternative of three months' hard labour, for being found in possession of 2½ tins of opium.

A Chinese Revenue Officer saw a sampan being rowed towards the piers, and the fact that the defendant (who was the passenger) directed the sampan to turn around when he saw the Officer aroused the latter's suspicions. The sampan was ordered to come to the shore, and the Revenue Officer then went on board and found the defendant in possession of the opium.

THEFTS AT TAIKOO DOCK

Two Chinese were before Mr. Wood for thefts from the Taikoo Dock.

One man was found leaving the yard with about 3lbs. of brass piping, valued at \$1, ingeniously concealed in a large sun hat which he was wearing. He was sentenced to one month's hard labour and four hours' stocks in lieu of the last day.

The same sentence was passed upon the second man, who told his Worship that a hammer head which he had in his possession when leaving the yard was found among some rubbish. He had the hammer head tied to his leg.

UNIVERSITY ELECTRIC LIGHT GLOBES.

Two coolies were charged before Mr. Wood with stealing electric light globes from the Hongkong University.

An Indian watchman spoke to seeing the defendants climb to the top of the entrance gate pillars and steal the globes. He at once blew his whistle, and, after a chase, the two men were caught.

Inspector O'Sullivan remarked that there had been extensive thefts of electric light globes from the University of late.

Both men were sentenced to three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks in lieu of the last day.

BOTTLES.

Before Mr. Dyor Ball, an unlicensed hawker was charged with having in his possession a parcel containing 24 bottles, the property of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co.

Mr. A. Nobbs, of the complainant Company, said that the paper and string used in wrapping up the bottles was identically the same as that used by his firm for parcelling. The bottles produced were imported from England, and were numbered specially for the firm. A list was also kept of the size, descriptions, and numbers, but as employees of the firm took bottles from time to time it was impossible to check the numbers. They had 10,000 varieties of bottles.

The defendant said that his occupation was a receiver of wine bottles. He took wine bottles from the dust bins of Europeans and they were in turn sold to the Chinese wine shops. He did not know the value of bottles. The man who came to him with the bottles concerned in that case asked 50 cents for them, but he (defendant) eventually got them for 35 cents.

The Magistrate was not satisfied, and sentenced the man to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

NEW TYPE OF U-BOAT.

Several Swedish papers publish statements concerning a large type of new German submarine which has been constructed. The vessel has a length of 140 metres, greatest breadth 11.3 metres, engines of 20,000 horse-power, a speed of 23 knots above the surface and of 15 knots below. The submarine is capable of carrying 70 torpedoes, 150 mines, and is provided with six 11.9 centimetre guns.

SHIPPING AND THE WAR.
EXCESS PROFIT AND LOSS.

It is a curious fact that at more or less regular intervals the shipping trade occupies the floor in the public attention, generally in the position of defendant against some agitation. In the present case the agitation is far more comprehensive than usual, and such extreme statements are made on both sides that the real points at issue are apt to become completely obscured.

Speaking broadly, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has to find unprecedented amounts of money for taxation purposes, and through force of circumstances the shipowners have been in temporary possession of much larger sums than at any other period of their career. Therefore, the Chancellor's wants are immediate, and as he cannot obtain money from those who have not got it, he is forced to look where he can find it, and the shipowners are specially marked for his attention.

With that singular middle-headedness which always characterises them outside their own particular trade, the shipowners have protested at great length and with great volubility against Excess Profit Taxation, pointing out that without their enterprise in providing fleets the country's position would be desperate—pleading that they have created trades and connections with great labour and expense, and indicating that the recent profits which have come their way are no more than their due.

Their opponents retort that 1911, 1912, and 1913, two of which years they were allowed to select in arriving at profits, were very good years for shipping, that the shipping trade in 1914 was on the verge of a periodical slump, from which the war saved it, that with the extra 20 per cent. allowed them over pre-war years they are being generously treated, and that no one deserves any sympathy when they try to use their country's misfortune for their own pecuniary advantage.

All this is very true, but it is beside the mark. Shipping is a fluctuating trade, with periodical good and bad periods. During the bad periods the public benefit by low cargo and passenger rates, and the Government takes no interest in the concern. During good times rates increase and the public kick.

An analysis of any large regular shipping concern will show that but for the good years profits would be impossible, and that during the lean periods they are liable to substantial losses, which would compel them, were it not for the knowledge that another good time is coming, seriously to curtail the facilities given to the merchants and travelling public. You cannot attract capital to a venture unless you can give a satisfactory return, and shipowners must pay its way or go backwards.

The real point at issue now is, "What are profits?" A shipowner's concern must keep on building new ships from time to time or go out of the business; therefore, when considering the present sums earned by shipowners, it is not only fair to take into account their normal rate of adding to tonnage and see how much extra this is going to cost them.

Take, for example, a company owning ten passenger vessels, which cost on the average £300,000 each at pre-war prices, and let us assume it builds two new steamers every three years. Take its average pre-war profit at, say, £200,000, and its present profit at £450,000. Then in three years it earns £750,000 above the normal. On the other hand, the two new ships, instead of costing £600,000, will at present prices cost £1,100,000 at least. Consequently the company makes £750,000 and loses £500,000, and if 50 per cent. Excess Profit Tax be deducted they make £375,000 and lose £500,000; in other words, they are £125,000 worse off than they would be in normal times after providing the two new steamers, and on the 50 per cent. excess basis they would be £250,000 to the bad.

The example chosen certainly deals with expensive ships, where each individual unit involves a large sum. But the cost of lower-class vessels has also risen out of knowledge; and not only that, but the Government is devoting all its spare energies to producing standard vessels, which will be catering for cargo, to the detriment of the tramp, after the war ends.

It would seem on the whole that while shipowners have at present the handling of money, and therefore must be taxed, their wealth is more apparent than real, and as they have undoubtedly been of great service to the country they do merit some consideration when it can be given.

Only progressive shipowning is of service to the Empire, and to encourage that, and at the same time assist those who are on account of large building programmes, most hit by the tax, it is suggested that the Government should lend to each shipowner for a period of, say, ten years a sum of money equivalent to the difference between pre-war and present costs on any new vessel he may order while the Excess Profits Tax is in force; it being understood that the sum advanced shall not exceed, say, 50 per cent. of the amount which the shipowner has paid to the Treasury in the shape of Excess Profit Tax, and that interest for the loan shall be on ordinary Government terms.—London Morning Post.

DOUBLE INCOME-TAX GRIEVANCE.**DISCUSSION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.**

In Committee of the Finance Bill, on a new clause proposed by the Imperial Government for the continuance of certain relief from income-tax.

Mr. Bryce moved to increase from 3s. 6d. to 3s. 3d. the rebate granted last year to persons liable for income-tax both in the United Kingdom and in our colonial possessions.

Sir G. Reid thought that men who went to the outlying parts of the Empire as pioneers should not have the income they earned in a colony taxed twice because they desired to come back to the old country.

Mr. Bonar Law said he had so much sympathy with the object of the amendment that he disliked opposing it. He felt as strongly as anyone the imperial side of the question. The whole future of this country and the Empire depended on the extent to which all parts worked together. It had been said that the present policy drove companies away from the country. There was a risk of that, but that risk could be exaggerated. In his view it was not a question whether or not the suggested change ought to be made. He thought it ought. The whole point which he argued was whether it ought to be made during the war, and in the present financial situation. But in saying that he did not accept the principle of the amendment. What he meant was that there ought to be some adjustment, and the representatives of the Dominions agreed in that view. The effect of the amendment would be that if in a colony there was an income-tax of 3s. 6d., the colony would get the whole of it and Great Britain would get nothing. Splendid as had been the share in the war of the Dominions, in the future they would probably be able to bear their share of the burdens which would be thrown on the Empire better than the United Kingdom.

So far as money invested by an ordinary British subject in undertakings in the Dominions was concerned, the only question was whether the investor was on the whole suffering in regard to the war to a greater extent than other people. He was inclined to think that was not the case. The income-tax in the Dominions was taken off first, and income-tax in the United Kingdom was only deducted from the net income. Apart from patriotic motives, a man who invested money in one of the Dominions looked at the return he would get and took into account whatever burdens were imposed in the particular Dominion. Obviously there was a hardship only if the net result was to give him a much smaller income than that of a man who had invested in the ordinary way in the United Kingdom. He did not think that was the effect. Owing to war conditions the trade of our Colonies had been on the whole very profitable, though there must be many cases where the net income had diminished. But he did not think it fair to say that the man in that position was treated more harshly than thousands of cases with which they had to deal in this country. Again, the investor in companies doing business in the United Kingdom was subject to the excess profits duty, which they had escaped up to the present in the Colonies. In view of all the circumstances and the need for every penny of taxation that could be secured, it was not unreasonable to postpone dealing with the matter till the end of the war.

The amendment was rejected by 129 votes against 80; Government majority, 50.

The new clause was afterwards added to the bill.

Mr. A. Allen moved a new clause, with the object of giving rubber companies relief in connection with the excess profits tax, by empowering the Board of Referees to take into consideration other factors than the capital of the companies in arriving at the percentage standard.

Mr. Bonar Law, while agreeing that there were inequalities and hardships in connection with the assessment of the excess profits tax, could not admit that the rubber industry suffered more in this respect than many other industries, and, therefore, he did not see his way to making any concession of the kind proposed. The Board of Referees already had the power to reopen the consideration of the arrangements for the assessment of excess profits tax, and the matter must be left there.

The proposed new clause was then rejected.

SHIPPING NEWS.**HAITIAN STRAIT—WILSON CHANNEL.**

Notice is given that two white cairns have been erected to mark the northern turning point for the Pass Island Beacon Leading Line, Wilson Channel, Haitian Strait.

These two white cairns are located on the eastern side of the Haitian Strait. The front cairn is situated on the 7-foot rock to the northward of Middle Island; the rear cairn is situated on the 15-foot Sazby Islet.

These cairns in line bear N. 85deg. E. magnetic, and mark a point where vessels leave the Pass Island Beacon Leading Line when bound to the northward.

SIR J. MAXWELL ON WAR PROSPECTS.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Maxwell, Commanding-in-Chief the Northern Command, speaking at a luncheon at York recently, referred to the war, remarking that the end was not really very far off. We must remember that although the end might be near it would be brought still nearer if we put every ounce of strength we had into the prosecution of the war.

DIVORCE LAW REFORM.
CANTON HALL MEETING.

That the existing evils of the present divorce laws are patent to an ever-growing number of social workers was evident from the large attendance recently at the Canton Hall, London, where, under the auspices of the Divorce Law Reform Union, a public meeting was held to call for immediate legislation on the recommendations of the Majority Report of the Royal Commission on Marriage and Divorce.

The chairman, Mr. Cecil Chapman, I.P. (Metropolitan magistrate), moved the following resolution: "That, having regard to the exposure by the war of the scandalous defects in the marriage and divorce laws, all possible effort should be immediately concentrated on the legislative recommendations of the Majority Report of the Royal Commission."

In proposing the motion, Mr. Chapman said the cause they were advocating was the cause of liberty and justice, the placing of the poor and the rich, the men and the women, in the same position. He, probably, had more experience than anyone present at that meeting of the pressing subject with which they were endeavouring to deal. No day passed wherein instances did not come before him of people suffering almost indescribable misery from a state of affairs which common sense might easily alter. There were no more miserable cases in the world than the dishonoured, degraded, deserted woman left by the law to live in that misery, without redress; the man tied to a criminal, an inebriate, a lunatic, or an unfaithful wife, because he cannot afford to get relief; or the tragedy of illegitimate children, without any possibility of making them legitimate. From his experience he was convinced that, in the interests of morality, freedom, and general happiness, it was absolutely necessary that the existing laws be changed, and that without a moment's delay.

Professor Gilbert Murray, in supporting the motion, said there were, doubtless, at all times a certain number of ill-considered marriages, but in these days of sudden bursts of emotion, of impulse and of admiration for men who were voluntarily facing death, they could be counted in hundreds where previously they could be counted in scores. They knew that many of them would turn out unsatisfactory, and it was to meet this special need that they were calling for the law to be changed. Their objection to the present laws was threefold. They were based largely on superstition; they degraded marriage to a purely sexual relation; they did callous injustice to the poor. Divorce is still a luxury for the rich, and out of the power of the poor. The characteristics of a good law were to make virtue easy and vice difficult, but, so far as their separation, and divorce laws were concerned, the tendency was quite the other way. Mrs. Despard appealed for equality of status between men and women.

Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., after giving details of the divorce law as it existed in Australia, characterised that of Great Britain as illogical, cruel, immoral, and blasphemous.

Dr. Marion Phillips urged that reform of the marriage laws should be part of the general reconstruction of the State, and should be taken in hand before the other great problems which will follow the war.

Sir Arthur Conn Doyle pointed out that the subject was essentially a war subject, for we had to look to the population of the future. A nation is a dying nation so long as the cradle does not keep pace with the grave, and added to the terrible losses we are sustaining by the war, we are adding to those losses by sterilising many men and women who might otherwise be rendering useful service to the State.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.**INSPECTION.**

All ranks will parade at Central Station at 5.45 p.m. sharp to-day, Thursday, the 30th August. Uniform, helmets, and rifles.

No exemption will be granted on business or any other ground than that of Medical unfitness.

Ambulance Platoon will parade without carriages and stretchers.

The Drums and Bugles are included in above order.

Mounted Police will fall in at Stables at 5.30 p.m.

The parade will March-past in Column of Fours in Queen's Statue Square.

Recruits will not parade.

The Band will not parade.

CHIEF AND STAFF INSPECTORS.

With reference to Notice posted at Headquarters' Club mentioned in Orders of August 29th and 31st, all Chief and Staff Inspectors will attend at Headquarters' Club at 5.45 p.m. to-day (Thursday, the 30th August), prior to the Inspection. Those without swords and belts will carry regulation walking-sticks.

STRENGTH.

Joined—No. 1 Company, P.-c. 870 J. C. Stoppa.

(Sgd.) T. F. Hough, A.S.P. (Reserve).

29th August, 1917.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.**NO. 1 HONGKONG V.A.D.**

The Monthly Lecture and Drill will take place at the Military Hospital, Bowen Road, next Friday, 31st inst., at 10.15 a.m.

W. WILKINSON, Acting Adjutant and Hon. Sec.

INTIMATIONS**LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.**
(ESTABLISHED 1850). (TELEPHONE 1741).**LADIES' DEPARTMENT.****SALE OF WASHING DRESSES**

AUGUST 29TH TO SEPTEMBER 5TH.

THESE READY-TO-WEAR SUMMER DRESSES ARE IN THE LATEST STYLES AND MATERIALS, BUT HAVING ARRIVED TOO LATE FOR THE SEASON'S TRADE, WE OFFER THEM AT REDUCED PRICES.

FROM \$10.00 TO \$25.00 EACH.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.**ISHERWOOD CIGARETTES.**

HAND-MADE IN CAIRO.

No. 3, Large ... \$4.50 per 100
or 2.30 " 50
No. 4, Medium ... \$3.60 per 100
or 1.85 " 50
No. 5, Small ... \$3.20 per 100
or 1.65 " 50
Ask your tobacconist for a tin at once.



Known all over the world as the most popular Egyptian Cigarette of to-day. An absolutely first quality Cigarette. Recommended by all connoisseurs.

Obtainable at:

HONGKONG CIGAR STORE. KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
GRAND-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE. A. B. WATSON & Co.
HONGKONG HOTEL KIOSK.

(497-1)

Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

We are now receiving New Shipments for
AUTUMN and WINTER WEAR
OF GENTLEMEN'S HIGH-CLASS
OVERCOATINGS, SUITINGS
AND
SPORTING MATERIALS.
BEST ENGLISH CLOTHS—MODERATE PRICES.
STYLE AND FIT GUARANTEED.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.
WE HAVE REMOVED our Offices to Second Floor of Nos. 30 and 32, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Tak Cheong Building.
Telephone No. 2118.
S. D. SETNA & Co.
Hongkong, 29th August, 1917. [952]

LOST.
A WHITE PERSIAN CAT. Finder will be suitably rewarded on returning same to—
"K. Y. Z."
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [953]

NOTICE.
THE ANGLO-FRENCH SCHOOL, Causeway Bay, RE-OPENS on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, at 9 A.M. [952]

DIOCESAN SCHOOL AND ORPHANAGE.
SCHOOL Duties will be RESUMED on SATURDAY, 1st September.
For Terms for Boarders and Day-Scholars, apply to—
THE HEADMASTER.
Hongkong, 28th August, 1917. [978]

WANTED.
A BOUT and September by Local Shipping Firm LADY STENOGRAPHIST previous experience essential.
Apply—
Box 30,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [971]

WANTED.
LOCAL Shipping Firm requires an ENERGETIC YOUNG EUROPEAN with previous experience. Knowledge of Typing and Shortland preferred.
Apply to—
Box 15,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [948]

WANTED.
ENGINEER, BRITISH, as WORKS FOREMAN. Applications with Copy References in own writing, stating age, experience and salary required. No other applications considered.
W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD.
921

KULANGSU MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AMOY.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the position of SECRETARY, and SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE to the KULANGSU MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AMOY.
Applicants should give full particulars on the subject of their previous experience. A knowledge of Hindustani would be preferable. A good working knowledge of Accounts is absolutely necessary.
Copies only of testimonials need be sent in with the application.
The successful candidate will assume office on 14th February, 1918.
He shall perform all the duties of Secretary, and Superintendent of Police.
The maximum salary to be paid to such Secretary will be \$300.00 per month (Amoy Currency), with an annual increase of \$25.00 per month to a final maximum of \$350.00 per month.
He will be provided with Uniform, Light, Fuel and also Quarters.
The Quarters will be in the Municipal Building, and must be occupied by the Secretary appointed.
Applications must be endorsed "APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY," and should reach Amoy not later than November 30th, 1917.
By Order of the Council.
T. W. DOBSON, Secretary, K.M.C.
Kulangsu, Amoy, August 17th, 1917. [966]

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1915.
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.
[958]

FOR SALE.
BAGS OF USED HONGKONG POSTAGE STAMPS with duplicates, containing 300 Stamps for \$20.00 1500 Stamps for \$20.00
500 " " 1.00 4000 " " 4.50
1000 " " 1.40 15000 " " 5.50
GRACA & CO.
No. 4, WYNDHAM STREET, Hongkong.
763

ON SALE.
HONGKONG HANSARD REPORTS of the MEETINGS of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for the Session, 1916.
REVISED BY THE MEMBERS.
PRICE \$5.
DAILY PRESS OFFICE

PUBLIC COMPANIES

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.
NOTICE.

THE ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Company's Hotel, on SATURDAY, 1st September, 1917, at 12.15 P.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts of the Company to 30th June, 1917, with the Report of the Directors, and to discuss any matter that may be competently brought before the Meeting.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 28th August, 1917, to 1st September, 1917, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board.
J. H. TAGGART, Manager and Secretary.
Hongkong, 20th August, 1917. [965]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Certificate No. 3422 dated Hongkong 18th February, 1900, for 50 Shares numbered 54219 to 54245, 10232 to 10237, 52840 to 52849, 54218 to 54244, and 5811 to 5816 and Provisional Certificate No. 43371 dated Hongkong, 5th July 1907, for 25 Shares numbered 88206 to 88230, all Registered in the name of Sir CARL MARZ, Bart., have been LOST or STOLEN, and should this Certificate and this Provisional Certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 2nd September, 1917, new Certificates for the Shares will be issued and the aforesaid Certificate No. 3422 and Provisional Certificate No. 43371 will thereafter be treated by this Corporation as Null and Void.
By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABE, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st August, 1917. [901]

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION).

(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND).
Unredeemed Bank Notes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any OUTSTANDING NOTES will be paid on presentation to the undersigned on or before SATURDAY, 2nd September, 1917, at Noon.
AFTER THAT DATE, holders will find it necessary to claim repayment in STEELING from the BOARD OF TRADE, LONDON, to whom the necessary funds will be remitted. THE BOARD OF TRADE make a charge for payment of claims out of monies deposited in the "COMPANIES LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT" at the Bank of England.
A. R. LOWE, Liquidator.
Chartered Bank Building, Hongkong, 16th August, 1917. [956]

HOUSES TO LET

TO BE LET.
A FLAT at No. 3, Jordan Road, Kowloon.
Apply to—
KAYAMALLY & Co.,
5, D'Aguiar Street, Hongkong. [969]

TO LET.
IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Lee House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
46, Connaught Road Central. [900]

TO LET.
"HOMESTEAD," No. 43, PRINCE OF WALES, Unfurnished, immediate possession, for 3 months.
FLATS, "Wild Dell Buildings," Wanchai.
HOUSES and FLATS, Gap Road.
Apply to—
SANG KEE, Care of COMMERCE DEPT., HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. [984]

TO LET.
OFFICES at 1, Connaught Road Central.
OFFICE in King's Buildings.
HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.
HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. [92]

TO LET.
A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. [941]

WANTED.
A HOUSE or WHOLE FLOOR with about 10 Rooms in a central location. Please apply to—
Box No. 1,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [967]

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
S.S. "COLUSA,"
FROM SAN FRANCISCO, KOBE AND MANILA.

THE above-mentioned vessel having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Cargo will be landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk.
Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.
All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on FRIDAY, 31st inst., at 10 A.M.
All Claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognised.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after 1st Sept. will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO., Agents.
Hongkong, 25th August, 1917.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN L.I.N.
JAVA-PACIFIC L.I.N.

THE Steamship "TJISONDARI" having arrived from SAN FRANCISCO, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.
No Claim will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 3rd Sept., at Noon, will be subject to rent.
All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 5th Sept., or they will not be recognised.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 3rd Sept.
No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by J. A. CHINA-JAPAN L.I.N.
Hongkong, 27th August, 1917. [975]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "SANTHIA" having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained.
Goods not cleared by 3rd Sept. will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. Godard and Douglas on 1st Sept., at 10 A.M.
Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of Steamer, otherwise they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd., Agents.
Hongkong, 27th August, 1917. [925]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS AND LONDON.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR BATAVIA, AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, AND SOUTH AFRICA PORTS.

THE Homeward Mail Steamer, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this port as usual, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Passengers accommodation in the connecting vessel secured before departure from Hongkong. Silk and Valuable and Tea and Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be conveyed by this Steamer proceeding via Bombay to Marseilles and London.
Parcels will be received at the Office until 3 P.M. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.
For further particulars, sailing dates, etc. apply to
E. V. D. PARR, Superintendent.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-NIGHT
9.15 p.m.—Frawley Coy. at the Theatre Royal—"Twin Beds."
TO-MORROW.
9.15 p.m.—Frawley Coy. at the Theatre Royal—"Twin Beds."

Saturday, 1st Sept.—
Noon—Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., Extraordinary General Meeting.
12.15 p.m.—Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

INTIMATION

COMPANIA GENERAL

DE TABACOS DE FILIPINAS.

LEUVO

COXTADO

EXTRA

\$3.25 per 100

A FIRST-CLASS CHEROOT

AT A CHEAP PRICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

CIGAR MERCHANTS,

TEL. 616.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FINE STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 30TH AUGUST, 1917.

JAPAN AND THE WAR.

THE statement which appeared a few days ago in the *Petit Journal*, of Paris, that Japanese troops were to be dispatched to the Russian front is now declared to be devoid of foundation. It is suggested that the report was spread by the agents of the enemy with the object of creating a sense of disappointment when it was discovered to be untrue, and of provoking discussion, and finally dissension, as to the part which each of the Allied nations is playing in the war. The news was certainly calculated to produce a feeling of confidence in the result of the struggle which is now taking place on the Russo-Romanian front. When discussing the *débacle* in Galicia in our issue of the 1st instant, we remarked that the splendid services rendered by the British armoured cars in covering the Russian retreat suggested that a greater infusion of Allied troops would be of the utmost value in restoring the *morale* of the Russian Armies. In the event of this policy being adopted Japan would appear to be the nation best suited to carry it into effect, because she has no other call upon her highly-trained troops, and it has long been understood that she was perfectly ready, if required, to dispatch a force to Europe for active service. The provision of the necessary transport, however, presented a difficulty which was considered to outweigh the advantages of any addition to the man-power of the Allies. By the employment of the Trans-Siberian Railway, of course, the demands upon shipping would be reduced to a minimum, and this gave a plausible sound to the announcement circulated by the *Petit Journal*. Though this announcement now proves to be untrue, the motives which inspired its authors may be ignored, for Japan has rendered, and is rendering, such signal, if silent, services to the Allied cause that any discussion of them can only serve a useful purpose by

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SERVICE DOLLAR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—The correspondence in the Press regarding the Service Dollar has had the effect of persuading the China Association, the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and various other influential bodies and personages in Hongkong to telegraph Home that something must be done immediately to remedy a state of affairs which is unfair to service men who are stationed in the Colony.

That the present system is unfair is admitted by every resident in the East, and the only difficulty is to make those in authority at Home realise this.

Is there any reason why the local authorities should not act at once instead of being content with sending telegrams? Two months ago it was decided to raise an additional revenue of about \$1,000,000 a year, through the rates, to be devoted to Imperial war purposes. Why should not this fund be used, primarily, to pay the difference between a 2s. dollar and the present dollar to all service men in the Colony; the remainder to be remitted home?

The Governor-in-Council could settle this matter in, I suppose, ten minutes, at a special meeting of the Council called for the purpose; and the money could be refunded to the Colonial Treasury when the Officials at Home have grasped the fact that at 2s. one pound sterling is worth \$10, whereas at 3s. it is worth only \$6.66.

And even if the financial magnates at Home never did agree to refund the money, would not part of the Colony's contribution have been used for the purpose for which it was raised, namely, to pay a portion of the Empire's War Bill?

That the procedure outlined above would meet with the approval of the ratepayers is a foregone conclusion; but, if the Council have any qualms of conscience at the possibility of acting against the wishes of the majority, it would be a simple matter to call a meeting in the Theatre to feel the pulse of local opinion. Surely it is "up to" the authorities here to do something immediately in support of the men who are serving them; otherwise, the memory of their period of service in Hongkong will remain only a nightmare of debt and disease.—I am, Sir, Yours truly,

"RESIDENT"

Hongkong, 29th August, 1917.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN FO."]

KWANGTUNG.

SHANGHAI, August 29th.
Feng Kuo-chang urged Li Kai-shien to go to Kwangtung, and the latter left Peking on the 27th inst.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN FO."]

CANTON, August 29th.

TAKING CARE OF ENEMIES.

The local authorities and the various Commissioners of Customs have received a telegram from the Peking Government stating that enemies, despite their being watched, may escape by reporting falsely, and that enemies should be prevented from leaving any place, without a new passport.

THE NEW CIVIL GOVERNOR.

The Provincial Assembly members held a meeting yesterday to consult as to the election of a new Civil Governor. Wu Hon-man, the ex-Tutuh, has secured 56 votes out of 63. This has been wired to General Luk Wing-ting and various Provinces.

It is also stated that the appointment will be given to Wu Ming Poon, the present Superintendent of Civil Affairs.

THE SOUTH WEST PROVINCES.

General Luk Wing-ting has received a telegram from the Premier stating that the Government will not use force to settle the disputes between the Government and the South West provinces. Luk, when asked to mediate in the matter, enquired the views of the

Tuchuns.

THE WAR.

ALLIES STILL ADVANCING IN WEST.

ITALIAN OFFENSIVE PROGRESSING.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

AMERICA AND THE PAPAL NOTE.

GERMANY FROM WITHIN.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

HEAVY WEATHER.

OPERATIONS HAMPERED.

LONDON, August 29th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters reports that the very heavy rain and furious wind are considerably hampering operations. Notwithstanding the rain the Germans last evening twice attacked our line astride the Ypres-Menin Road, coming in big assault waves through Inverness Cops. Both attempts were broken up and the attackers were heavily punished. We are getting plenty of evidence of the exhaustion of the enemy reserves in this area. One Wurtemberg Division has been exposed to continuous fire since the middle of August and is weakened beyond all fighting effectiveness. The enemy is now forced to re-employ inadequately rested and re-fitted troops.

The Flying Corps in the past week co-operated in attacking over 700 batteries and the destruction of 123 gun-pits. They caused 300 explosions of ammunition dumps and brought down 48 enemy aircraft and drove down 90 out of control.

CALM ON BRITISH FRONT.

LONDON, August 29th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Owing to heavy rain and a gale there has been no infantry action. Our aeroplanes, despite the weather, got into contact with the infantry in yesterday's operation north-eastward of Ypres, and successfully machine-gunned troops and transport. No machines are missing.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE BEING PREPARED?

AMSTERDAM, August 29th.

The *Telegraaf* states that the Germans are everywhere fortifying the northern frontier of Belgium, near the bend of the Scheldt. It is estimated that there are 50,000 reserves at Antwerp.

ARTILLERY STRUGGLE.

PARIS, August 29th.

A *communiqué* says:—There is nothing to report beyond a rather lively artillery struggle on the left of the Meuse.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH ATTACK.

LINE ADVANCED.

LONDON, August 29th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a *communiqué*, says:—As the result of our attack yesterday, we advanced our line, after heavy fighting, on a front of two thousand yards astride the St. Julien Pœlcapelle Road, and established ourselves in further portions of the German third system. The enemy twice attacked without result at Inverness Cops. We secured prisoners.

GERMAN MESSAGE.

LONDON, August 29th.

A German wireless official message states:—A strong English attack on the Ypres-Menin Road broke down heavily. The English also attacked between Langemark and the Rouler Ypres Railway, using numerous "tanks" and low-flying aeroplanes. The attack was without result, except for a small indent made north-east of Frezenberg.

FRENCH OFFENSIVE.

MUCH GROUND GAINED.

LONDON, August 29th.

Correspondents describe Beaumont village as a veritable fortress. To the south-east the ground is wooded, and behind lies the wooded hill of Wavrille, which is the last commanding position on the heights. The French assault began at daybreak. Both wings rapidly reached their objectives, namely the Beaumont high road and Chambray road as far as Chaumo wood. Machine guns on the north border of Fosse Wood stopped the centre temporarily, but, by noon, the whole of the Beaumont woods were captured. The ground gained is three quarters of a mile in depth. The special significance of the success is that it was achieved when the 1 inch might have been expected to be fully occupied in consolidating the new ground.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

MORE VOLUNTARY RETIREMENTS.

AUSTRIANS ALLOWED TO TAKE POSITIONS.

LONDON, August 29th.

A Russian official wireless message states:—The enemy adopted the offensive from Czernovitz against Novosvitz. Our infantry near Boyany did not wait for the attack, but, leaving the trenches, retired to the east. The reserves also scattered and the Austrians occupied positions.

Italian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

OFFENSIVE PROGRESSING.

IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH ENEMY.

LONDON, August 29th.

A wireless Italian official message states:—We are continuing our progress on the Bainsizza Plateau. Our troops are in close contact with the enemy.

Local attacks gave us further positions.

Austrian Admission.

LONDON, August 29th.

A wireless Austrian official message, dated August 28th, states:—We evacuated Monte Santo without a fight on the night of August 24th.

BRITISH CONGRATULATIONS.

LONDON, August 29th.

The Press Bureau announces that His Majesty the King has congratulated the King of Italy on the splendid achievements of the past week, which have inflicted a heavy blow on the enemy and will have a far-reaching effect on the course of the war. He was happy that British guns and monitors were able to contribute to the success.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

MINERS' WAGES.

STRIKE THREATENED.

LONDON, August 29th.

The Executive of the Miners' Federation have submitted a request to the Controller of Coal Mines for a 25 per cent. increase in wages. It is reported that the miners of an important Midland area have threatened to strike if their wages are not immediately advanced. The Federation and the Controller both hoped that this would be postponed pending Government consideration.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

ASTONISHMENT AND INDIGNATION.

PETROGRAD, August 29th.

M. Korniloff's sensational revelations at the Moscow conference have evoked astonishment and indignant condemnation.

General Retch states that he told the country the truth as it ought to be told. Amidst the atmosphere of contradictions and mistrust a feeling is arising that it is necessary to maintain a Coalition Government.

THE INTER-ALLIED CONFERENCE.

SHARP DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.

LONDON, August 29th.

Although the proceedings of the Inter-Allied Conference were private, it has leaked out that sharp differences of opinion manifested themselves, especially owing to the Russian delegates' insistence that the decisions at Stockholm must have a mandatory character.

The Independent Labour Party introduced numerous amendments to the Labour Party's memorandum of peace terms, embodying several independent well-known principles, such as the repudiation of Imperialistic annexationist aims. They suggest, however, that the question of the re-union of the people of Italian race within the Kingdom of Italy might be subject to negotiation, and also agree to the internationalisation of Constantinople.

AMERICA AND THE PAPAL NOTE.

WASHINGTON, August 29th.

America's reply to the Pope's Note, while couched in the most courteous terms, finds no grounds on which to discuss peace, in the absence of an announcement of Germany's terms.

EARLIER CABLES.

JAPANESE TROOPS.

A REPORT DENIED.

LONDON, August 29th.

Groundless reports have been circulating in Paris to the effect that Japanese troops will soon arrive on the Russian Front. It is believed that these are of enemy origin. It is difficult to see their object, but it is apparently hoped to arouse a certain amount of disappointment, when it is discovered that they are untrue, to create talk and discussion in Allied countries regarding the part which each is playing in the war, and, possibly, ultimately to create dissension on the subject.

U.S. EXPORT RESTRICTIONS.

WASHINGTON, August 29th.

President Wilson has issued a Proclamation forbidding the shipment of any goods to Europe for neutrals except under licence, and also extending the lists of goods for which a licence is required for shipment to the Allies and extra-European neutrals, these goods to include cotton, meats, sugar and most of America's other exports. President Wilson emphasises his determination that the enemy shall not benefit directly or indirectly by American products.

CANADA AND THE WAR.

VALUABLE HELP.

OTTAWA, August 29th.

In the House of Commons, Sir William White, Minister of Finance, announced that, owing to the increased British output of munitions, the Canadian production of certain kinds had been discontinued and others diminished. Canada had advanced seven millions sterling to the Imperial Government in July and the same in August, and would advance five millions monthly until December. They had also advanced, in addition, a million in August for the purchase of cheese, and two millions for the purchase of hay, oats and flour. Meanwhile the Imperial Government was financing the Canadian war expenditure overseas.

DEALING WITH RUSSIA.

STRIKING SPEECH BY GENERAL KORNILOFF.

LONDON, August 29th.

A feature of the great Conference at Moscow was a most remarkable speech by the Generalissimo (General Korniloff) emphasising the disorganisation of the Russian Army and outlining remedial measures. General Korniloff declared that the death penalty was only a small part of what was necessary. He mentioned that in August some soldiers who killed officers ceased their outrages only when they were threatened with shooting; also that a regiment of the Siberian Rifles which had abandoned the Riga Front, only returned to duty when its extermination was ordered. We are implacably fighting anarchy in the Army. The situation at the front is so bad that we have lost the whole of Galicia, the whole of Bukhovina, and all the fruits of our recent victories. The enemy has crossed our frontier at several points and is threatening our fertile southern provinces. He is endeavouring to destroy the Roumanian Army and is knocking at the gates of Riga. If the Army does not help us and hold the shore of the Gulf of Riga, the road to Petrograd will be opened wide. General Korniloff emphasised that the disorganisation of the Army was due to the acts of people who were completely ignorant of military affairs. He urged the immediate adoption of remedial measures, including the strengthening of the authority of the non-commissioned officers, the improvement of officers' pay, and the forbidding of regimental committees to participate in a decision on military operations or in the appointment of leaders. Similar measures must be applied at the rear. The condition of the railways was such that by November the Army would not receive any supplies on the South-West Front and at present it was nearly famished. The output of guns and shells had fallen by sixty per cent. and the output of aeroplanes by eighty per cent., as compared with the period between October, 1916, and January, 1917. He concluded by saying that he believed that the genius and reason of the Russians would save the country and that the ancient glory of the Army would be restored.

The speech was greeted by prolonged cheers from everywhere, except the Extreme Left.

LATEST CABLES.

Moscow, August 29th.

M. Tschidze, President of the All Russian Council of Workmen and Soldiers, followed General Korniloff.

He chiefly demanded internal reforms. With reference to army reform he was vague, and merely asked that the powers of the Commanders and Committees should be defined. He urged that all nationalities in Russia should decide their own destiny, after agreement with the Constituent Assembly.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMANY FROM WITHIN.

THE "FREE COMMISSION."

LONDON, August 29th.

Interruption of cables to the Continent, owing to a storm, and the unusual activity of the German censorship, make any appreciation of the situation in Germany doubly difficult. It is announced that the first business to be referred to the Chancellor's new fangled "Free Commission" will be the reply to the Pope's Note. Apparently the Government's draft will be submitted to the Commission for consideration and amendment, and experience will alone show how the seven members of the Reichstag and the seven Federal Councillors will work together. The former will probably have small say against the Councillors, who are all men of weight and importance. The whole scheme is regarded as a makeshift, giving a show of parliamentarisation of the Government with little substance, but it has succeeded in momentarily appeasing the claims of the Reichstag.

TRIAL OF GENERAL SUKHOMINOFF.

SOME STARTLING EVIDENCE.

PETROGRAD, August 29th.

At the trial of General Sukhomino, the ex-Commander of the South-Western Front, declared that under General Sukhomino's régime military secrets were communicated direct to Berlin and Vienna from Petrograd via Warsaw. General Velitchko, the Deputy Director of Engineers, said that among General Sukhomino's extraordinary acts was the destruction of Russia's best fortresses. Experts who, like himself, protested were dismissed. The ex-Tsar saw everything through General Sukhomino's spectacles.

HISTORIC RUSSIAN MUSEUM PILLAGED.

PETROGRAD, August 29th.

Burglars have pillaged the historic museum of the ex-Grand Duke Michael Nikolaievitch, and carried off works of art valued at five million roubles.

There have been no arrests.

THE "TANKS."

INTERESTING APPOINTMENT.

LONDON, August 29th.

The Duke of Westminster has been appointed Second in Command of the Tank Battalion.

GERMAN FOREIGN UNDER-SECRETARY.

AMSTERDAM, August 29th.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* says that Herr Von Stamm, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has been granted leave, for reasons of health. It is uncertain whether he will resume office.

Baron Buschew is acting as his substitute.

THE ROUBLE.

LONDON, August 29th.

The rouble reached its lowest exchange value in London to-day, namely, 250 for £10, compared with 93½ nominally.

CANADIAN SOLDIERS' PENSIONS.

OTTAWA, August 29th.

The Government has announced an increase in soldiers' pensions on a per cent. basis from April, in consideration of the increased cost of living in Canada.

PEACE TALK.

INTER-ALLIED LABOUR AND SOCIALIST CONFERENCE.

LONDON, August 29th.

The Inter-Allied Labour and Socialist Conference sat in London privately to consider the future attitude towards the war and peace. An authorised statement says that Mr. Arthur Henderson, the ex-Cabinet Member, who presided, welcomed the representatives, including the South African Labour leader, Colonel Cresswell. Mr. Henderson acknowledged statements from the Australian and South African Labour Societies. He declared that the main issues of the war were so fundamental, far-reaching and vital to the future of the human race as to demand a dispassionate consideration by both the majority and the minority sections present. No satisfactory results could be achieved by an attempt on the part of the majority to out-vote the minority. The Conference should endeavour to agree on a basis of war aims.

The Conference adjourned until tomorrow.

MEXICO AND THE WAR.

It is announced that a conference was arranged last month between Mr. Lansing, Secretary of the State Department, and Mr. Eleuterio, United States Ambassador in Mexico. This is the first intimation of the Ambassador's return from Mexico. The reports that Mexico would enter the war on the side of the Allies are considered improbable by most American officials. On the other hand, they do not believe that Mexico will become an active supporter of Germany. Deep interest is felt in Government circles here in the persistency of Mexico in imposing heavier export taxes on oil and in issuing decrees, which it is said will come into effect on July 10th, regulating holdings of land by foreign mining and other corporations. The representations made to the United States by some of the concerns interested indicate that the enforcement of these measures would result in the forfeiture of large properties now held by British and American firms.

THE CAUSES OF INDUSTRIAL UNREST.

DILETTANTE CONTROL.

(FROM "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

At the annual conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions at Gloucester—Mr. James O'Grady, M.P., presiding—there were present delegates from 141 trade unions with a membership of 873,415.

The President, in his address, regretted to say that he never knew a time when the relation between the Government and organised labour was so bad as it was now. He attributed the whole confusion and danger which had arisen between Government departments and labour to the fact that certain dilettante men of superior education, with an academic mind, but no knowledge of the problems of life, certainly not of the workshop, were in control of workmen. How could they expect workmen to go on quietly under conditions of that character? Had it not been for the presence of business and labour men in the Government industrial unrest would have expressed itself forcibly months ago. There was at the moment grave industrial unrest due to high food prices, profiteering, the delay in arbitration cases in dealing with grievances, and unnecessary restrictions. A group of faddists were doing immense harm. These the speaker said. He had in the House of Commons protested against the declaration that, because workmen drank beer, they were not producing munitions and other things properly. That was an absolute falsehood. The great industrial unrest and social discontent had not affected the attitude of organised labour towards the war. In spite of all these things the British people were just as firm in their loyalty to the cause of the Allies as they were in August, 1914, and he ventured to say they would not swerve from that position.

PACIFISTS' AGITATION. He regretted that the pacifists were not content with expressing their views upon the war, but that they were seeking to disrupt the organised labour movement of the country. They were actually threatening secretaries of unions and men who had spent their lives in the labour world. With regard to the proposed international meetings, he warned the Conference and the country generally to beware of German intrigues. At this moment in Russia millions of marks were being spent lavishly every week, in German propaganda. It was also being spent in Sweden and Norway and the Continent of Europe. He was asked to stay in Stockholm on his way from Russia to meet certain powerful men coming from the enemy's country. He refused to stay and meet them. (Cheers.) How could we be expected to sit down at table and shake hands with and discuss the affairs of trade unions in the respective countries when we knew that German workmen had never raised their voices against the barbarities practised by the enemy? Englishmen's sons and brothers had been down to death by poison shells, gas, and liquid fire, and their aeroplanes had come over to Great Britain to smash children in the schools. The Germans first tried to persuade the Swiss to call a general conference in Switzerland. This was followed by the attempt to engineer the Stockholm business, and now there was another intrigue to persuade their Swiss brethren to convene a conference at Bern on September 16th.

Mr. W. Appleton (secretary) said he had received a cable from Mr. S. Gompers, secretary of the American Federation of Labour, stating that he had just cabled to the president of the International Conference at Stockholm, informing him that the American Federation regarded "all such conferences as premature and untimely, and can lead to no good purpose." We apprehend that a conference of such a kind contemplated would rather place obstacles in the way of democratising the institutions of the world, and hazard the liberties and opportunities for freedom of all peoples; therefore, the American Federation of Labour, with its two million five hundred thousand members, cannot accept the invitation to participate in such a conference. If any international trade union congress is to be held it should be at a more opportune time than the present or the immediate future.

BISHOP AND COLOURED LABOUR. Bishop Frodsham said he had realised for many years the enormous part that Labour must play not only in the future of the Empire but of the world. He had very deliberately identified himself with the trade union movement among women during the past year because he realised that splendidly as the women had worked in England during the war, a disorganised mass of women's labour would be a great danger not only to labour but to the country as a whole. He was glad that their federation had struck a warning note with regard to coloured labour. The position that was taken in Australia with regard to this subject was very often misunderstood. People thought it was based upon antagonism to folks of another colour; it was nothing of the sort. The whole question of coloured labour was an economic question. It was a biological fact that the lower organisms could crush out the higher organisms, and it was no insult to the Chinese and the Japanese, and even to the less developed races of the world to say they were lower organisms than the English and Americans and the white races. It would be possible for the lower races living under conditions which were impossible for the white races to crush out and conquer the higher people.

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ARMY MEDICAL EXAMINATION TOO MANY PERMANENT REJECTIONS POLITICS AND MILITARY DOCTORS

General Bedford, Deputy Surgeon of Medical Services, Northern District, gave evidence before the Select Committee, which is investigating the cause of medical re-examinations under the Review of Exceptions Act. The constitution of the travelling medical boards, he said, was not quite the same as that of the ordinary recruiting medical boards. In the case of travelling boards local doctors sometimes assisted. He gave in detail a description of the examination. A recruit ran the gauntlet of members of the board, each of whom examined him for a particular form of disability. Then all expressed their opinion, and the President decided what the recruit's category should be. Witness produced an Army instruction to the effect that the President must himself classify all recruits.

The Chairman (Mr. E. Shortt, K.C., M.P.) remarked that this was a new instruction, but General Bedford replied that it was issued last February. No recruit could be finally rejected without the President's approval. During the year which ended on June 30th last thirty-three boards in the Northern Command examined 500,000 recruits. He disagreed with the statement that a successful stockbroker with a weak heart might drop down dead in the Army through exertion. "That is the very thing he would not do," the witness said. "If he was properly classed, he would be put into C, where he would be as safe as a church. These are the very men we want to get. Men of good education, not fit to go into A or B. He would be a most valuable man in a hundred offices where we are dealing with a mass of technical subjects."

EVERY MAN OF POTENTIAL USE.
Witness handed in a document containing the instructions issued by him in September to the boards on the subject of the large number of men rejected as permanently unfit. In this document he said: "I wish to call serious attention to the very large proportion of men found permanently unfit by some of the boards. The point I wish particularly to emphasize is that every man found permanently unfit is once and for all lost to military service, and cannot be called upon again for re-examination or employed in any military capacity of any kind. In future boards must retain every man who is of any potential use whatever in the Army."

The Chairman asked whether this instruction was based on anything issued from the War Office.

Witness—Not that I am aware of.
The Chairman—Had you any difficulty in getting that order acted upon by the civilian doctors?

Witness—No. I think the boards responded to it very well.

The Chairman suggested that sometimes the civilian doctors did not regard men as fit to stand the Army regime.

Witness—Because a man is in kinkie fight, but that does not follow. He added that the memorandum was issued after a meeting at the War Office, which was called because it was felt that through permanent rejections there was a preventable leakage of men who might be of use.

Did General Keogh know that you were going to send this out? I presume he must have known that we should do something to interpret the policy of the War Office with regard to the high percentage of these rejections.

MINISTERIAL PLEDGES.
The Chairman read a document issued by witness last June pointing out that the spirit of his previous instructions had been unjustifiably misunderstood as some medical boards. Men are being passed of absolutely no potential use whatever, the document continued. "I am shocked at the specimens of humanity which have been accepted as of potential value to the Army—men almost totally blind, deformed, and of doubtful intellect, men almost unable to stand."

The Chairman inquired whether the document, which was dated June 22nd, was the result of any speech in Parliament.

Witness—No. I think it was in connection with an inspection which the Commander-in-Chief and I made of a lot of labour battalions.

Are you to understand that Ministers give pledges of something that is to be done, and that is not communicated to you?—No. I know nothing about politics. It is not a question of politics. Responsible Ministers of the Crown give pledges in Parliament of certain things which shall be or shall not be done. Do I understand that these promises are not communicated to you or to your command?—The only thing they communicate to us are the Army Council instructions.

"It discloses a very deplorable state of things," commented the Chairman. Referring to his remarks issued in June regarding the passing of unfit men, witness said that he found out later that the men whom he had inspected and to whom his remarks applied were the dregs of the whole command, and that proportionate to the hundreds of thousands of recruits who had been daily examined by the numerous boards their percentage worked out at a very minute one.

NOTHING TO DO WITH POLITICS.
General Jenkins, Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Command, said that after the meeting at the War Office referred to by the last witness on the subject of the rejection of men who might be usefully employed in the Army, he issued an instruction to the medical boards in his command. In it he said that the large number of rejections left it to be feared that many men were being classified B, C, or D, or totally rejected, who might be usefully employed on medical service, and that there were many duties in the Army which incurred no greater fatigue than fell to the same men in civil life. "It is hoped," added

(Continued at foot of next column.)

REPENTANT BANDITS. THE REVOLUTION IN THE CAUCASUS.

(By "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" PETROGRAD CORRESPONDENT.)

Side by side with the great historical events of the Russian revolution are proceeding a number of subsidiary dramas, some of which have an almost comic-operative character. The old days of the Snowy Theatre involuntarily come to one's mind when one reads in the Russian papers the story of the "Peace of Kakhetia." This mountainous district which lies to the east of Tiflis, is largely inhabited by restless tribesmen. From these had been recruited a formidable gang of robbers, which for more than 10 years had ceaselessly harried the peaceable population, plundering and murdering, and successfully setting at defiance the weak authority exercised by the Tsar in that region. But the new doctrines of liberty, equality, and fraternity found their way to these wild bandits, and touched their hearts, and, hearing that a great revolutionary meeting of the population was to be held at a central point, they decided to make an attempt to come to terms with their "traditional enemy." Accordingly emissaries were sent to the gathering under a flag of truce, with the message that the bandits being desirous to "conclude peace," would undertake to lay down their arms and commit no more hostile acts against "their mother."

This proposal was eagerly accepted, and a few days later the whole band, unarmed and waving red flags, marched into Tiflis, the chief town of Kakhetia, to attend the "grand" revolutionary meeting which was held there. The robbers, we are told, "unreservedly adhered to the Revolution, and swore to abandon their former mode of life." It was, however, realised that this general reconciliation might not be enough. There was a long list of crimes against the bandits, and the new legal authorities, with their arms stretched out as far as Kakhetia, might have something to say on the matter. More over, the custom of blood feud still exists in the district, and many of the inhabitants had lost relatives or cows through the robbers' raids. It was, therefore, decided that for the present the gang should leave Kakhetia altogether, and that the "Executive Committee" of Tiflis should be requested to act as mediators for them both with the central authorities and with the villagers. This the committee consented to do, and it also guaranteed the bandits their freedom on condition that they surrendered their arms, which they did.

The Tiflis Committee then invited the village communities to hold meetings to consider the matter and to pass the following resolution: "Taking into consideration that the illegal conduct of the robbers was conditioned by the circumstances of the old regime and the action of officials of the old Government, and that under the new Administration the said persons have completely ceased their activity, and having appeared before the public with contrition, have begged for indulgence, we have resolved to consign to utter oblivion all the crimes committed by the said persons in Kakhetia up to the time of the national upheaval, and consequently to request the Tiflis Executive Committee to submit a petition for the cessation of all criminal proceedings against these persons."

Apparently the resolution was carried everywhere, and the peace of Kakhetia was restored. Then agents sent out by the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates at Tiflis toured the Yelisevetski district, midway between that town and Baku, in the early part of last month, they found the population of some isolated villages in complete ignorance of the events of the Revolution. The local Khans had announced that Russia had given up that part of the Caucasus, and that their own old authority would, therefore, be restored. This prospect had greatly alarmed the peasants, who had secretly decided to send a delegation to Petrograd with the request that they might be taken back into Russian citizenship. When the Russian soldiers, who travelled with the agents of the council, appeared at the village meetings, they were greeted with "shouts of joy." The population of this district is Mohammedan.

In some remote parts of the Caucasus, inhabited mainly by Moslems, advantage was taken of the Revolution forcibly to convert the Christian minority to Islamism.

GERMAN BRIBERY

The activity of the German propaganda in neutral countries is only too well known, and it is obvious that the German Government spends large sums to that end. The *Matin* says it can give the approximate figure from a sure source. Thus in Spain alone the Germans spend they have in Switzerland started since the war over 1,200 quite new business undertakings. Finally, the total estimated expenditure of the German Government on propaganda is put at £16,000,000 per annum.

the document, "that if the recruiting boards realise this there will be a considerable reduction in the proportion of rejected recruits."

The Chairman—Had the proportion been high in your command?

Witness—I think it had been high all over the country.

Has your attention been drawn to any of the pledges or promises given by Ministers?—No.

"Don't you think it would be better if you had had your attention drawn to them?" asked the Chairman.

Witness—No. I do not see what it has to do with me. I have nothing to do with politics.

"There is no politics about it," replied the Chairman sharply. "Do you suggest to the Committee that it is no concern of yours to see that your recruiting boards carry out pledges given by Ministers?"

Witness—We have to carry out the instructions of the Army Council. We have nothing to do with pledges of Ministers.

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WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	"KUEICHOH"	On 30th Aug., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SINKIANG"	On 31st Aug., 11 P.M.
BANGHAI	"ANHUI"	On 2nd Sept., 11 P.M.
SWATOW and BANGKOK	"LINAN"	On 2nd Sept., 10 A.M.
MANILA, CEBU and ALOILO	"TEAN"	On 2nd Sept., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SHENING"	On 4th Sept., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SHANTUNG"	On 4th Sept., 4 P.M.

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"HAIYAN"	... Capt. A. E. Hodgins	... FRIDAY,	7th Sept., at Noon.

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VIA KEELUNG, SHANGHAI	Capt. Noma 12,500 Sept., at Noon.
MOI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	"INABA MARU" (MONDAY, 8th)
SHIMIDZU and YOKOHAMA	Capt. Higo 12,500 Oct., at Noon.

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KOBE...	"NIKKO MARU" (SUNDAY, 23rd)
	Capt. Takada 9,500 Sept., at 11 A.M.
	"BENTEN MARU" (THURSDAY, 30th)
	Capt. Yamamoto 8,000 Aug.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, and	"KITANO MARU" (MONDAY, 3rd)
	Capt. Cope 15,000 Sept., at 11 A.M.
YOKOHAMA, ...	"HIRANO MARU" (SATURDAY, 15th)
	Capt. Fraser 15,000 Sept., at 11 A.M.
	"FUSHIMI MARU" (SATURDAY, 15th)
	Capt. Iizawa 21,000 Sept., at 11 A.M.

MOI AND KOBE ...	"PENANG MARU" (SATURDAY, 1st)
	Capt. Kishibiki 10,000 Sept.
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"KORU MARU"	13,000	FRI., 6th Apr.
"SIBURA MARU"	19,000	MON., 15th Oct.
"TENYO MARU"	23,000	FRI., 26th Oct.
"NIPPON MARU"	11,000	SATUR., 10th Nov.

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"HAWAII MARU"	... WEDNESDAY, 26th Sept., at Noon.

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"SOSHU MARU"	... THURSDAY, 30th Aug., at 10 A.M.
"AMAKUSA MARU"	... SUNDAY, 2nd Sept., at Noon.
"KAIJO MARU"	... SUNDAY, 9th Sept., at Noon.

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Tai O	5.00 P.M.	—
Tai Po	10.00 A.M.	8.30 A.M.
Cheung Chow	7.30 A.M.	—
Shantou, Shatin and Sheungshui	3.00 P.M.	—
Aberdeen, Antau, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, Santin, Stanley	4.30 P.M.	—
Canton, Samshui and Wuchow	7.30 A.M. Regin 5.00 P.M. Lobson 6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Macao	7.15 A.M.	3.00 P.M.
Kowloon	1.30 P.M.	1.00 P.M.
Shanghai and Samsui	6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Shanghai	10.00 A.M.	3.00 P.M.

From Sheungwan Western Branch P.O.

For	ON WEEK-DAYS	ON SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
Macao	7.30 A.M.	8.30 A.M.
Canton	7.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Tai Ping Loo	7.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Shak Ki	7.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Kowloon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kowloon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kowloon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kowloon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 29th AUGUST, 1917.

STOCKS.	PAID UP VALUE.	OFFICIAL QUOTATION 10.30 A.M.	CLOSING QUOTATION.	LAST DIVIDEND.
BANKS—				
Hongkong and Shanghai	\$125	\$180, sales		\$23 1/2 int. a/c 1917
INSURANCE—				
Canton	\$50	\$130		\$25 for 1916
China Fire	\$20	\$130		\$9 for 1915
Hongkong Fire	\$20	\$130		\$27 for 1915
Lungtung	\$50	\$130		15% int. account 1916
SINCE—				
Douglas S.S. Co.	\$50	\$11, sales		\$5 int. a/c 1916/17
Canton Steamboat	\$15	\$15, sales		\$1.25 for 1916
Indo-China Pref.	\$25	\$25, sales		6% for 1916
Indo-China Pref.	\$25	\$25, sales		50% for 1916
Star Ferry Co.	\$10	\$20		\$2.10 for year ending 30-4-17
REFINERIES—				
China Sugar	\$100	\$120, sales		\$12 for 1916
Malayan Sugar	\$50	\$120, sales		\$5 for 1916
DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS—				
Kowloon Wharf Co.	\$50	\$75, sales		\$4 and bonus of \$2 for 1916
W. and W. Dock Co.	\$50	\$113, sales		\$5 and bonus of \$5 for 1916
Shanghai Docks	Tls. 100	T. 78		Tls. 7 for year ending 30-4-16
LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS—				
Central Estates	\$100	\$38, sales		\$7 for 1916
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$107, buyers		\$3 for 1 year
Hongkong Lands	\$100	\$55, buyers		\$3 int. account 1917
Hongkong Land Reclamation	\$75	\$15, buyers		\$3.35 for 1916
Humphreys Estates	\$10	\$3, buyers		10 cents for 1916
Kowloon Lands	\$30	\$33, buyers		\$2 for 1916
West Point	\$50	\$72, buyers		\$3 int. account 1917
Oil—				
Langkat	G19	Tls. 14, sel.		Tls. 1 for year ending 31-10-16
Shells	\$1	105/6, buyers		2% int. account 1916
And Caspian	\$1	32/		2% for 1915/16
MISCELLANEOUS—				
Kilans	\$1	40/-, buyers		1% int. account year ending 30-6-17
Rum	\$1	\$2.60, sellers		None since 1910
Trough	\$1	25/6		4% int. account 1916
GUMMERS—				
Ban	Tls. 50	T. 150, sel.		Tls. 9 for year ending 31-10-16
Kang Yik	Tls. 10	T. 16		T. 0.30 for year ending 30-11-16
Oriental C. S. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	T. 42		Tls. 6 for 1915
Shanghai	Tls. 50	T. 128, sel.		Tls. 6 for year ending 30-6-16
Yangtze	Tls. 5	T. 53, sellers		NH for 1915
MISCELLANEOUS—				
China Borneo	\$12	\$1		60 cents for 1916
China Lights	\$5	\$4		None since 1906
China Providents	\$10	\$7 1/2, a. & b.		70 cents for 1916
Dairy Farms	\$6	\$3		\$3 for year ending 31-7-16
Green Island Cement	\$75	\$7, buyers		\$3 for year ending 31-7-16
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$43		\$3 for year ending 31-7-16
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$14		\$2 int. a/c 1917
Hongkong Ropes	\$10	\$6 1/2		\$1 int. a/c 1917
Hongkong Steels	\$10	\$10 1/2, buyers		\$1 for year ending 31-5-17
Hongkong Trans	\$5	\$6, sales		9% int. a/c 1917
Peak Trans Old	\$10	\$8, sellers		7% for year ending 30-6-17
Do. New	\$1	\$0.90		30 p.c.
Steam Laundries	\$5	\$3, buyers		35 cent. year ending 31-5-17
Union Waterboats	\$7	\$13		\$1.25 for 1916
Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8, sales		70 cents for 1916
Wm. Powell, Limited	\$7	\$6 1/2, sellers		None since 1914

VERNON & SMYTH. Share Brokers.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

		August 28th.
ON LONDON.—	Transfer	3 -
	Telegraphic on demand	3 1/2
	Bank Bill at 30 days' sight	3 1/2
	Bank Bill at 4 months' sight	3 1/2
	Bank Bill at 6 months' sight	3 1/2
	Bank Bill at 9 months' sight	3 1/2
	Bank Bill at 12 months' sight	3 1/2
ON LEBIS	Bank Bills, on demand	416
	Credits, at 4 months' sight	458 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	Bank Bills, on demand	7 1/2
	Credits at 60 days' sight	7 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	Telegraphic Transfer	nom
	Bank Bills, on demand	nom
ON CALCUTTA.—	Telegraphic Transfer	nom
	Bank Bills, on demand	nom.
ON SHANGHAI.—	Bank Bills, at sight	nom.
	Private, 30 days' sight	nom.
ON YOKOHAMA.—	On demand	20 1/2
ON MANILA.—	On demand.—Pesos	143
ON SINGAPORE.—	On demand	127 1/2
ON BATAVIA.—	On demand	70 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	On demand	5 1/2 pms
ON SAIGON.—	On demand	5 1/2 pms
ON BANGKOK.—	On demand	5 1/2
SOVEREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate		866
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael		688.90
BAR SILVER, per oz		45 1/2